

(Continued from front cover)

soybean development. In the **Southwest**, seasonal showers continued to ease irrigation requirements and curb the wildfire threat. Hot, dry weather in **California** and the **Northwest** favored fieldwork and crop development, including winter wheat maturation in the latter region, but fostered the spread of wildfires. Weekly temperatures averaged up to 7°F above normal in **California** and the **Northwest**, but ranged from 2 to 8°F below normal throughout the **Plains** and **Corn Belt**. Near-normal temperatures prevailed in the **Southeast**.

During the first half of the week, hot weather produced more than 30 daily-record highs in the **Northwest**. In **Oregon**, **Tillamook** noted three consecutive record highs (79, 80, and 85°F) from June 25-27. On Tuesday, highs soared to 100°F in **The Dalles, OR** and 98°F in **North Vancouver, WA**. **East of the Cascades**, a wildfire near **Richland, WA** briefly flared to more than 100,000 acres. Meanwhile, cooler weather overspread most areas from the **Plains eastward**, resulting in a few daily-record lows. **Mobridge, SD** posted a record low of 46°F on Tuesday, followed 2 days later by records in locations such as **Russell, KS** (50°F) and **Paducah, KY** (57°F). Temperatures again remained below 90°F throughout much of the **Corn Belt**. In **Indiana**, **Indianapolis**' highest temperature during June was 89°F on June 10. **Indianapolis** most recently failed to reach the 90-degree F mark during the first half of a year in 1997; their first occurrence that year was July 2. Similarly, **Chicago, IL** experienced their first June without 90-degree F heat since 1960.

**Chicago** also concluded May and June without a single dry spell longer than 3 days. The city's only recent 3-day periods without rainfall of a trace or more were May 6-8, June 8-10, and June 29 - July 1; **Chicago**'s last 4-day dry spell took place from April 24-27. Farther west, **Iowa**'s statewide rainfall was very close to the normal of 1.01 inches, following the state's wettest week (statewide average of 2.43 inches) since June 1998. June rainfall records were established in several locations from the **southern and eastern Plains** to the **western Corn Belt**, including **Fayetteville, AR** (14.39 inches, or 290 percent of normal), **Fargo, ND** (11.72 inches, or 416 percent), and **Fort Wayne, IN** (8.55 inches, or 238 percent). With a June total of 12.52 inches (337 percent of normal), **Rochester, MN** noted their wettest month on record, breaking a June 1978 record. Meanwhile in the **Southwest**, the early onset of seasonal showers resulted in the second-wettest June on record (1.56 inches, or 780 percent of normal) in **Tucson, AZ**, behind only 2.07 inches in 1938.

While locally heavy showers in the **Southeast** dampened topsoils, long-term moisture deficits persisted. In **Tallahassee, FL**, rainfall during the first half of 2000 totaled 11.15 inches (35 percent of normal), or 20.81 inches below normal. In **South Carolina**, **Greenville-Spartanburg's (GSP's)** June rainfall deficit of 3.46 inches left their 26-month (May 1998 - June 2000) deficit at 32.84 inches. During that period, **GSP's** precipitation of 78.89 inches was 71 percent of normal.

Elsewhere, **Tampa, FL** netted 4.53 inches of rain (83 percent of normal) during June, accounting for nearly 60 percent of their year-to-date total. Although **New Orleans, LA** received above-normal rainfall (4.78 inches, or 107 percent of normal) in June, their year-to-date total (14.27 inches) remained less than 50 percent of normal.

Widespread showers returned to **Hawaii**, providing some drought relief to windward areas and western parts of the State. On the **Big Island**, more than 5 inches of rain soaked **Hilo**. On **Oahu**, however, only light rain dampened **Honolulu**, completing the city's driest June (0.03 inch, or 6 percent of normal) since 0.03 inch fell in 1975. **Honolulu's** 32-month (October 1997 - June 2000) rainfall deficit grew to 41.92 inches, a period during which their rainfall totaled less than one-third of normal. Meanwhile in **Alaska**, scattered showers accompanied temperatures that averaged within 4°F of normal. Although portions of **mainland Alaska** remained unfavorably dry, contributing to the spread of numerous wildfires in the **Yukon River Valley**, wet conditions persisted in southern parts of the State. **Juneau's** monthly rainfall, 5.72 inches (182 percent of normal), was their third-highest June total on record, while **Cold Bay's** total of 8.35 inches (398 percent) was a June record.

#### Wettest Month (Inches) on Record

Location	Total	Normal	Former Record/Month
Rochester, MN	12.52	3.72	12.33 in July 1978

#### Record-High June Precipitation (Inches)

Location	Total	Normal	Former Record/Year
Fayetteville, AR	14.39	4.97	13.63 in 1982
Rochester, MN	12.52	3.72	11.95 in 1914
Fargo, ND	11.72	2.82	9.40 in 1975
Ft. Wayne, IN	8.55	3.59	8.29 in 1958
Lubbock, TX	8.48	2.75	7.95 in 1967
Cold Bay, AK	8.35	2.10	6.98 in 1952

#### Wettest June (Inches) at Selected Locations Since...

Location	Total	Normal	Wettest June Since...
Juneau, AK	5.72	3.15	6.22 in 1996
Springfield, IL	7.46	3.43	8.16 in 1994
South Bend, IN	7.75	4.11	10.86 in 1993
San Antonio, TX	7.61	3.81	7.69 in 1987
Norfolk, VA	8.31	3.82	9.72 in 1963
Tucson, AZ	1.56	0.20	2.07 in 1938